10 31 -96

SPECIAL HALLOWEEN ISSUE

VALLEY STAR

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Thursday, October 31, 1996

CAMPUS CRIME WATCH

The following is a list of crimes reported to Campus Police from Oct. 21 through Oct. 28:

Oct. 21: A 1987 Toyota pickup was stolen from Lot B between the hours of 9:30 and 11:50 a.m.

Oct. 22: Vandalism was committed on a 1991 Nissan two door in Lot B between the hours of 1 and 3 p.m. The car's paint was scratched. Damage was estimated at $300.

Motor vehicle burglary in Lot B between 5:30 and 9:45 p.m. Binoculars were stolen out of the locked trunk. The estimated value of the binoculars was $120.

1992 Honda Accord was stolen from Lot B between 5:45 and 9:30 p.m.

Oct. 23: Theft of hubcaps in Lot B between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. The hubcaps were stolen off a 1995 Toyota and have an estimated value of $200.

Oct. 24: Jeep Wagon's window was smashed and a car phone was stolen valued at $250 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Lot G.

Motor vehicle theft of a parking decal occurred in Lot B Between 6:50 and 9:50 p.m. The car's rear view mirror was torn off during the theft. The decal's value is $20.

Oct. 26: Five male juveniles were pulled over by LAPD officers near Lot E at 9:48 p.m. They had an open container of alcohol in the car. Two of the suspects were arrested by the LAPD for outstanding warrants and two were released into their parents custody. Campus police assisted the LAPD.

Oct. 28: A warrant was served for a felony arrest of a female Valley College student on charges of dealing narcotics, money laundering and mail fraud. The campus police worked in cooperation with the postal service on the arrest. At 10:02 a.m. one campus police officer went into the suspect's classroom and asked her to come outside. Two postal officers were waiting outside to assist in the arrest.

Seven juveniles were stopped and detained by the LAPD on Fulton between Oxnard and Hatteras at approximately 12:30 p.m. The juveniles were reported by a man who was looking for his missing daughter at Grant High School.

He observed the suspects climbing into a car, two of them into the trunk. Thinking his daughter might be there, he reported the incident as a kidnapping to the LAPD. Three of the juveniles were cited for truancy and the driver was cited for carrying two passengers in the trunk. The man who phoned the police found out afterward his daughter was not with the group.

All crimes have been reported to LAPD for further investigation. Campus Crime Watch list compiled by Adam Adler.

Making This All Hallows Eve Safer for Kids

By ADAM ADLER
STAFF WRITER

Halloween revelers will fill the streets tonight. More Halloween photos pages 4-5. Carola Danielsson / Valley Star

All the costumes, candy and fun on Halloween make it a perfect holiday for kids. Unfortunately kids need a lot of help and protection to make sure their Halloween is a safe one.

When the Druids first created Halloween, the jack-o'-lanterns and costumes were meant to scare off evil spirits. In modern times the real life dangers on Halloween are enough to scare mere mortals. Traffic accidents, fire hazards, and sick acts aimed at hurting children are things that need to be watched for and guarded against.

Fortunately there are many steps that can be taken to ensure safety on Halloween. With a few things to keep in mind, having a safe Halloween is easy.

"Most of the problems we see in the emergency room on Halloween are children ill from eating too much candy or pedestrian versus auto accidents," said Dr. Michael Vitullo, medical director of Valley Presbyterian Hospitals emergency room. "It's best to accompany your children and only trick-or-treat at the places you know."

Vitullo made some suggestions to keep Halloween safe. Addition ally, the Los Angeles County Department of Health and City Fire Department haveHalloween safety tips. Following their advice should ensure a safe Halloween for everyone.

First, adults should always accompany children when trick-or-treating. Going trick-or-treating in groups is also suggested. Never let trick-or-treaters go into someone's house. Do not go anywhere except the neighborhood you are familiar with.

Cross streets only where there is a clear view of approaching traffic and remember to look both ways. Carry a flashlight at all times. If older children are allowed to go alone, know where they are going and that they are in a group.

Halloween costumes should be made safe. They should be visible at night and have some bright colors and reflective material. Make sure masks do not restrict vision in any way. Costumes should be non-flammable. Also make sure to keep them away from heaters, stoves, open flames and all other ignitable sources.

Be sure that warm clothing is worn under costumes.

There are some other fire safety tips to keep in mind. Jack-o'-lanterns need to be kept clear of anything flammable. An adult should supervise them at all times. Be sure to carry a flashlight and not a candle when trick-or-treating. In

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Prop. 209 Debated at TCI Cable, Valley Students Attend

By L.E. THOMAS
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The controversial ballot initiative, Proposition 209, was debated earlier this month at the TCI cable television studio in Van Nuys.

Valley College students were invited to attend the television taping of "The Politics of Preference" debate and represented a vast majority of the television audience. The students participated in a question-answer session at the close of the debate.

The distinguished debate panel included California State Senator Tom Hayden, Los Angeles School Board President Jeff Horton and Cindy O'Connor from the League of Women voters, on the opposing side.

Supporting the proposition were California State Assemblyman Jan Goldsmith, Law Professor Gail Heriot and Errol Smith, Vice-Chairman of the California Civil Rights Initiative.

Proposition 209 is the California Civil Rights Initiative which seeks to prohibit discrimination or preferential treatment by public entities on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in public employment, education, or contracting.

Affirmative action programs largely provide preferential treatment based upon race and gender in efforts to balance college and employment opportunities. Prop. 209 opponents claim the Initiative would virtually abolish affirmative action, thereby vastly affecting colleges and universities.

Mediator and host Clifford May opened the debate by proclaiming, "As California goes in this affirmative action debate, so the United States is likely to go as well."

In his opening statement, Black American Errol Smith, a strong supporter of Proposition 209, claimed that the language used in 209 parrots the language of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the spirit and intent of the entire Civil Rights movement.

Smith declared, "If you are in favor of equal opportunity, if you are in favor of civil rights, if you are in favor of every American being treated equally, you should be completely in favor of 209."

Smith rhetorically asked, "The question of this debate is, should we use discrimination to end discrimination?"

Initiative opponent Cindy O'Connor declared, "We believe that affirmative action has proven to be an effective way for minorities and women to overcome historical barriers to employment. Prop. 209 prohibits preferential treatment and relaxes standards that discrimination against women and minorities." O'Connor added, "We've spent 30 years trying to get equal access to the market place and now we could lose it all."

Initiative supporter Gail Heriot said, "Discrimination and preferential treatment are two sides to the same coin." Prop. 209 supporters argued that the present system is unjust, especially as applied in college admissions, where there is a "glass ceiling" to those applicants that are not of a preferred race.

Goldsmith told a story of an otherwise qualified Asian applicant who was denied admittance to UC Berkeley because she was Asian. Goldsmith claimed that such a form of discrimination leaves wounds of resentment and lifelong scars. "Racial preference is just creating another victim," he said.

Goldsmith urged listeners to focus on solutions based upon economic factors rather than those built on racial and gender differences. "Let's face it, 33 percent of those living under the poverty level are white. They need help too. People who come from disadvantaged backgrounds need some assistance, but not on the basis of race," he argued.

Prop. 209 opponents contended that because discrimination is a reality, preferential measures such as affirmative action are necessary. "The backers and the writers of Prop. 209 want to pretend that with just a simple initiative they can change reality, and it's the ultimate sort of arrogance that by simply writing something and getting it on the ballot the conditions in the real world will be changed," Horton argued.

"We live in a very racially complicated city. On my staff, I have Latinos, I have Latinas, I have Jews, I have African Americans, I have all kinds of people, because I have all kinds of people in the City of L.A.," Hayden testified. Prop. 209 would prohibit him from even considering gender or ethnicity in hiring.

Opponents argued it is impossible to remedy racial and gender imbalance and fairly represent the population without taking race and gender into consideration.

Concerns that the Initiative would lock new policy in the California Constitution for 10 to 20 years and abolish affirmative action leaving nothing in its place, comprised the opposing panel's primary objections. "I simply

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3.5 GPAs Feted

Nearly 1,500 students who earned Dean's List status will be honored at the semi-annual dean's reception next week.

The list includes both part-time and full-time students who have completed 12 units or more with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher at Valley College.

The reception will include musical performances by Timothy Jameson and Andy Jackson. Guests of honor will be Dr. Alfred Zucker, professor of English, and Robert Lane, president of the Phi Theta Kappa academic achievement society.

Anyone interested in reading names of the honorees can find the complete roster posted in Monarch Hall.

Carola Danielsson / Valley Star

Carlotta Tronto, new dean of Academic Affairs.

New Dean Begins On a High Note

By ADAM ADLER
STAFF WRITER

A veteran dean from Mission Community College has filled Valley College's Dean of Academic Affairs vacancy.

Carlotta Tronto is the new of Dean of Academic Affairs. She will be in charge of programs that are considered non-traditional. These would be programs that do not fall under the normal school curriculum. Tronto has 10 years of experience as an administrator and faculty member at Mission's Academic Affair Department.

"It's just really neat to be here," Tronto said. "I m impressed with the faculty, the staff and — certainly— with the students." The campus landscape, all the student activity going on, and the cats on campus are some of the things she likes about the campus.

Tronto, who prefers to be called "Carlie," said she has been on a learning curve her first week. In addition to starting her new job, she has been meeting people and getting to know how things work at Valley College. She said the district notified her two weeks before she was going to start in her new position. In that time she had to tie up loose ends at her old job while getting ready to take her new one.

"The School that I'm coming from is very small, very easy to know everybody and very easy to know how things operate. Its different here at a big school," she said

As dean, Tronto will be working with specially funded, non-traditional, programs . She said this would be anything that does not occur in the normal schedule of Monday through Friday during the regular class hours. These would be things like the Afternoon College.

She would also look into the possibility of new programs, like the Pace Program, which would be a weekend college concept. Development of these programs will facilitate enrollment growth, Tyree Wieder, the Valley College

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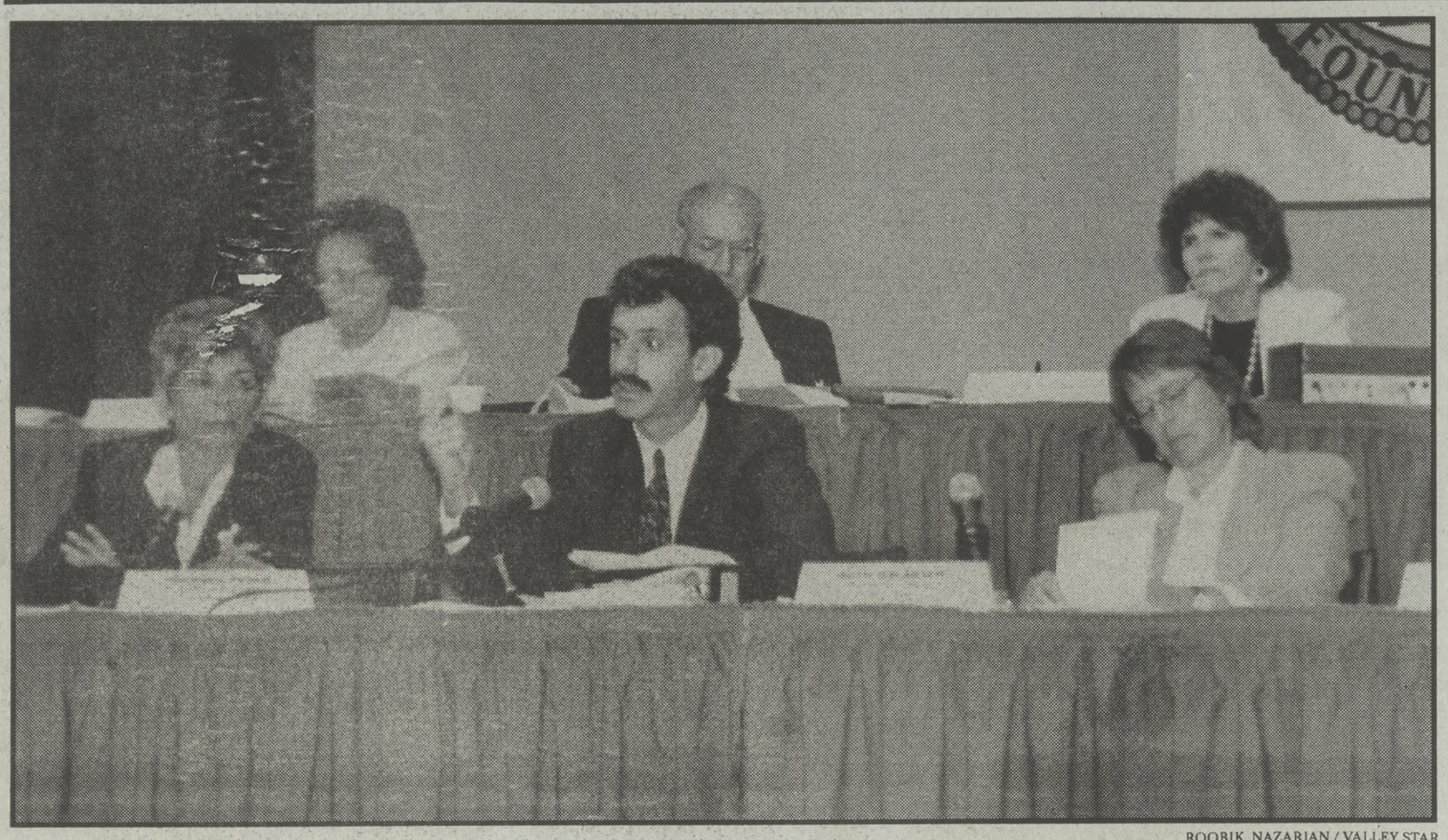


ROOBIK NAZARIAN / VALLEY STAR

L.A. City Council members from left to right Laura Chick (Third District), Michael Feuer (Fifth District), Ruth Galanter (Sixth District).

Downtown Council Comes to Valley

By ADAM ADLER
STAFF WRITER

Monarch Hall was filled to capacity on Tuesday when the Los Angeles City Council convened for a special council meeting away from City Hall, downtown.

Tuesday's meeting was the third such meeting that the City Council has held in the San Fernando Valley this year. The meeting was moved from its normal chambers downtown to bring city government closer to its more isolated districts. The event was cause for great preparation and excitement at Valley College.

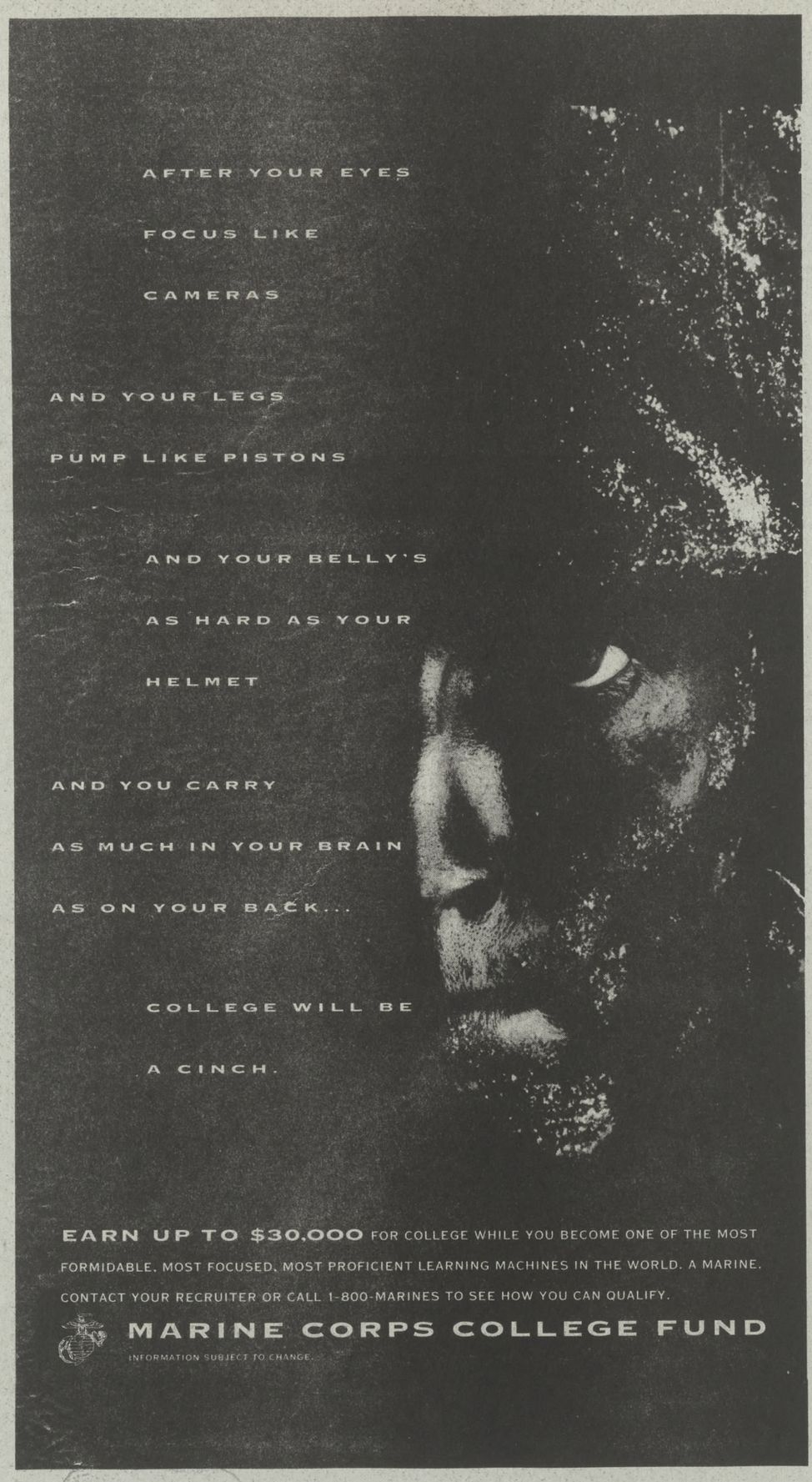
San Fernando Valley residents, who would otherwise be unable to attend meetings downtown, voiced their concerns about local community needs. The over 300 people in attendance forced Fire Inspector Doug Forster to close the doors and restrict attendance to standing room only.

A number of the topics at the meeting dealt with San Fernando Valley issues. The council voted to pass plans for businesses improvement districts in Canoga Park, Encino, Woodland Hills, Sherman Oaks, Studio City and Tarzana. A proposal for $50,000 in bonds from parking meter revenues to build new city parking structures slated Studio City as one of the first recipients of building.

A controversial proposal by Councilwoman Laura Chick to install cameras on traffic lights of the eight most dangerous intersections in the city was passed. The cameras would photograph the license plates of cars running red lights and would issue their owners $103 citations. Opposition to the proposal said that the proposal could violate civil liberties. Councilman Mike Hernandez, assistant president pro tempore of the council, said that people being cited would make claims of not being in the area at the time of citation. Councilwoman Rita Walters voted to pass the program but said that the issue of violating civil rights should be further studied.

Another controversial issue discussed at the meeting was a one-year memorandum on new billboards. Councilman Mike Feuer, of the Fifth District which includes Van Nuys, made the proposal. He said that the existing number of billboards in the city reduced property values and were detrimental to the community. Lobbyists from the billboard industry said in response that the existing restrictions on billboards were already restrictive. The council voted seven to six to send the proposal back the council planing committee for further consideration.

Councilman Feuer did make a successful proposal to clean up the preponderance of illegal signs in the city. The proposal would establish a plan for the city to work in cooperation with city groups to removal signs. Signs for political campaigns and garage sales would be the type of signs targeted for this program. One man at the meeting held a campaign sign removed from his neighborhood and said that there was nothing being done about these signs that are cluttering the city.


AFTER YOUR EYES
FOCUS LIKE
CAMERAS
AND YOUR LEGS
PUMP LIKE PISTONS
AND YOUR BELLY'S
AS HARD AS YOUR
HELMET
AND YOU CARRY
AS MUCH IN YOUR BRAIN
AS ON YOUR BACK...
COLLEGE WILL BE
A CINCH.
EARN UP TO $30,000 FOR COLLEGE WHILE YOU BECOME ONE OF THE MOST FORMIDABLE, MOST FOCUSED, MOST PROFICIENT LEARNING MACHINES IN THE WORLD. A MARINE.
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MARINE CORPS COLLEGE FUND
INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

SAFE HALLOWEEN FOR KIDS

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In case a costume does catch fire, make sure children know how to "Stop, Drop and Roll."

It is very important to pay attention to the "treats" that children receive. Only commercially wrapped candy and products should be eaten. Before anything is eaten it should be carefully examined by an adult for signs of any type of tampering: holes, pin pricks, tears, etc. Many hospitals offer x-raying of Halloween candy, but this will only detect metal objects (see list below).

Anything that looks suspicious should be separated. Be especially wary of pin holes because hypodermic needles can be inserted to inject harmful substances. Anything that appears to have been tampered with should be reported to the police.

A little awareness of these things will provide a lot of protection for children. Everyone can take part in their children's or younger sibling's Halloween safety. Doing so can ensure that it stays a fun night and does not become a nightmare.

The following local hospitals will x-ray Halloween candy. Ask for the x-ray or radiology department. Many hospitals are offering this service so if your local hospital is not on this list, check with them.

Encino-Tarzana Regional Medical Center 18321 Clark in Tarzana (818) 881-0800. Today though Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mission Community Hospital 14850 Roscoe Blvd. in Panorama City (818) 787-2222. Thursday through next Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Northridge Hospital in two locations: 18300 Roscoe Blvd. in Northridge (818) 885-8500. Tonight though Thursday from 7 a.m. till 10 p.m; and, 14850 Sherman Circle in Van Nuys (818) 997-0101. Tonight from 6 p.m. to midnight and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Sherman Oaks Community Hospital 4929 Van Nuys Blvd. Sherman Oaks (818) 981-7111. Tonight through next Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Valley Presbyterian Hospital 15107 Vanowen St. Van Nuys (818) 902-2986. Tonight from 5 to 8 p.m. and Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m.

TCI PROP 209 DEBATE

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"I simply think that it is irresponsible to eliminate all these programs and leave absolutely nothing," Hayden said.

"To cut affirmative action without any promise or any idea that we are going to find a new way to make sure that discrimination doesn't happen is to ask us to go on a level of faith that we simply cannot adhere," O'Connor maintained.

A female Valley College student voiced concern that clause "C" of the Proposition leaves too much room for discrimination against women, in that the Proposition allows discrimination when "reasonably necessary." Heriot explained that women's rights were supported by 30 years of case law. O'Connor was concerned that the new Proposition would open a flood gate of new cases to be decided and women would suffer in the meantime.

Finally, O'Connor said that, although affirmative action may need some evaluation and revision, to wipe it out altogether by passing Prop 209 would be throwing the baby out with the bath water.

Smith argued that programs should address economic disadvantages instead of race to help poor people.

Following the debate, Valley student Caroline Sarien said, "I think we should pass 209. Mr. Smith gave the best argument. What you get from discrimination is more discrimination."

AS Vice-president Patricia Tejeda, who opposes 209, said, "The debate was very informative, but they didn't focus on some very important issues, on education and how education would be affected by 209 and the bad impact on colleges and universities."

The debate will be televised Monday at 10 a.m. on TCI's local cable channel 15.

DEAN TRONTO

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president, said.

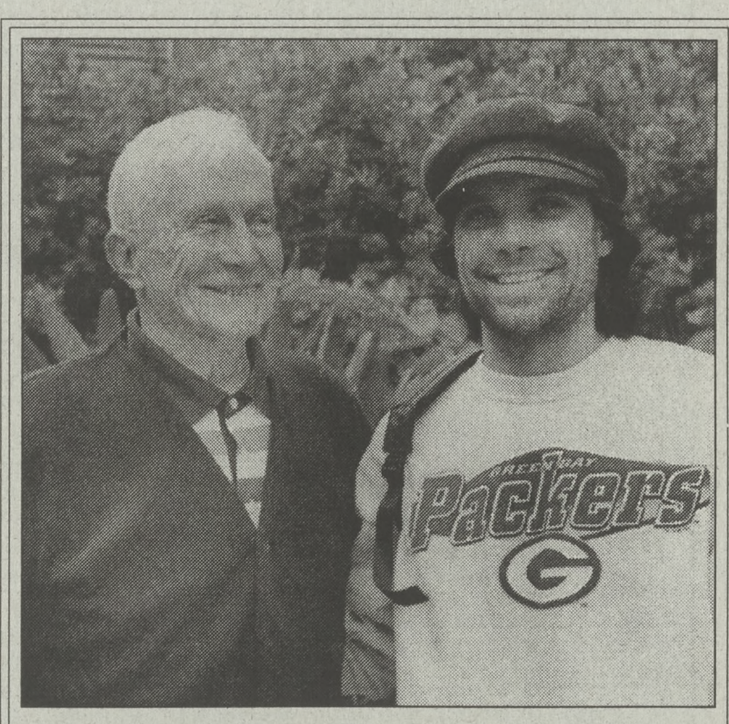
The position has Tronto working with other aspects of the college. Instructional support areas like the library and Learning Center as well as programs like GAIN and JTPA will fall under her position. In addition she will also be seeking and developing new grants for the college.

In her 10 years at Mission, Tronto gained experience from numerous positions. In addition to being curriculum dean in Academic Affairs she was Cluster Chair, responsible for the work of 18 disciplines; and served as Athletic Director. She was involved in the Faculty Senate and Guild.

Tronto actually came to Valley College in a roundabout way. While teaching high school in New York she decided to take a cross country trip. After spending two weeks in California she said to herself, "Why do I live in the East?"

Next she packed everything she owned in a U-haul, including her Volkswagen, and moved here. She became a long term sub at Pierce College and then permanent faculty. From Pierce she went to Mission and the rest is now recorded history.

Tronto is just getting settled in. Afterward, her plans are to "roll up my sleeves and get involved in working with some of these programs."



MONICA LID / VALLEY STAR

HISTORICAL MUSEUM CONTEST RESULTS

The winner of the Valley Star Historical Museum Contest is Darrin Powell pictured above with Austin Conover, curator of the Historical Museum. Powell is a 31-year-old liberal arts and sciences major who correctly answered the seven questions and submitted them to the Valley Star.

The prizes offered were a leather-bottom Monarchs backpack and a $20 gift certificate to the bookstore. Both prizes were donated by the bookstore.

Amazingly enough, Powell was the only Valley College student to turn in a set of answers; out of an estimated 16,000 students.

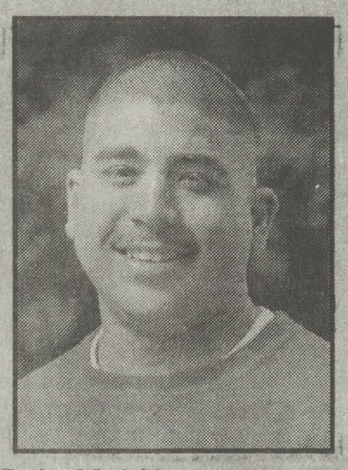
"We had a lot of people in, [the museum] about 40, but most of them just wanted the answers," said Austin Conover, curator of the Historical Museum.

"It's kind of pathetic, people aren't interested in history," said Powell who received both prizes because no one else entered the contest.

Happy Halloween!

What do you think about Propositon 209?

Dickey Brandon
Major: Business Economics
"Prop. 209 has to stay implemented to keep racial prejudice down in the work area as well as social area."



Carlos Madrid
Major: Physical Therapy
"You're damned if you do, and you're damned if you don't. All people in the world are discriminated against"

Monica Domingvez
Major: Undecided
Affirmative action was created to give minorities a chance to explore and advance themselves in society. The minority should be given a chance, and this prop. will give them that opportnity."

Jamie Chavez
Major: R.P.T.
"The emphasis on media has evoked more of a controversial issue."

Photo Survey by
CAROLA DANIELSSON

PROPOSITION 210: AN OVERDUE RAISE

By CARMEN PINTO
STAFF WRITER

After almost a decade of low-pay, state and federal Legislature have put an initiative statute to increase the state minimum wage, better known as Proposition 210.

Prop 210 was put on the Ballot to increase today's hourly minimum wage of $4.25 per hour to $5. per hour effective March 1, 1997, and then to $5.75 per hour beginning March 1, 1998.

On the contrary, as stated in the Nov. 5, 1996 ballot, a no vote means: "California's minimum wage will not be raised beyond the level required by current law."

Realistically, today's hourly minimum wage is ridiculous!

Even more absurd is the fact that the last minimum wage increase was back in 1988, while inflation and cost of living are never placed on hold, but rise every year.

Because the economy's inflation has rose 26 percent, minimum wage buys the working class nothing but their basic necessities like food and clothing. Needless to say that the lowest paid are hit the hardest.

Small business owners and other individuals highly vocal against this proposition claiming it will "hurt" their business or that it will negatively affect the economy are usually the same ones benefitting greatly from the hard and cheap labor others are putting in.

And it is interesting to note, those same individuals earn much more than minimum wage. Of course those opposed to Prop 210 know little if anything about living on a $4.25 per hour salary.

A known fact is that the biggest low-wage employers are not hurting for money.

Billion-dollar companies like fast-food and retail chains, for example, can certainly afford to pay above minimum wage, but obviously choose not to because they are not required to by law.

Employers that still pay minimum wage, are usually the ones who work their employees twice as hard, trying to get the most out of those $4.25.

A minimum wage employee opposed to Prop 210 is rare, simply because that particular individual is living the hardship and knows exactly what it is like to basically live from paycheck to paycheck.

According to an article, "A Look at the Issues..." published in ME Magazine, "Today, minimum-wage-earning employees who work 40 hours a week earn less than $9000. a year. Adjusted for inflation, minimum wage workers earn 27 percent less than they did in 1979."

Besides rewarding hard work, voting for the minimum wage increase will help millions of Californians out of poverty as over two million of the "working poor" would get an overdue raise.

And that raise may be just what the economy needs.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor
I am a single white mother on welfare. Incidents occurred that made me make some tough decisions, and my son and I needed temporary help. I am not ashamed. I am angry.

Welfare "reformers" believe that all recipients are "lazy" or stay home to have more babies. I'm sure that there are some people who abuse the system. I've seen them myself, living paycheck to paycheck, barely scraping by. I witnessed people collecting cash benefits who were driving new cars and wearing designer clothes. I was working hard, while they were getting "handouts".

The morals instilled in me while I was young make me hold my head high and be proud of my accomplishments. Losing my job made me realize that I was in need of higher education. The decision
to return to school was an easy one, the decision to apply for AFDC was not. Knowing that my son would be looked down on by his peers for being on welfare made me question my motives. If I wanted to improve our lives, changes and sacrifices were necessary. A friend pointed out that once I graduate, I will again be contributing to society.

Since returning to school, I have maintained close to a 4.0 GPA. I have worked very hard to better myself, carrying a heavy school load so I may graduate as quickly as possible. I certainly do not think of myself as "lazy" nor do I plan to remain on welfare or have any more children.

I do agree welfare needs to be reformed . However, those helping themselves should not be punished for their hard work.

Imagine, if you will, lowered costs for education and child care. Give incentives for welfare recipients to do whatever they can to help make society better. Raise the minimum wage. Continue supplemental food stamps and Medi-Cal once a job is found. Make it easier and rewarding for welfare mothers to return to the productive workforce. Continue to punish only abusers.

The safety net established after WWII is disintegrating. Government assistance was intended for US citizens so that they may lead a decent life, and should be available ONLY to U.S. citizens. We are the only country in the world where a non-citizen's child, when born here, is automatically made a citizen, allowing the parents to remain in this country and collect benefits.

We, as a nation need to stand together and help our own if we want to save our future. We can not allow society to return to the horrific conditions of the early 1900s.

J. K.

★

Dear Editor,

I would like to applaud the paper for the articles concerning welfare, AFDC, and the like. But did you realize that there are students on this campus who utilize these services.

Unlike T.K., the AFDC recipient the article was written about, I attend school. I have a two year old daughter. I am a full time student and on the Dean's list. I do not receive book grants from EOPS because not a remedial Math or English student. I qualify for Financial Aid but that never comes until well after the middle of the semester. AFDC in a way is supportive of my going to school. Valley College GAIN does not service my zip code and the office that does find my pursuit of higher education irrelevant. Gain is set up to quickly get a person into a minimum wage job, not a career that they can support their family on.

I do not feel sorry for T.K. with 5 children, her check is large enough to rent an apartment and pay her bills.(it is in excess of 700$ a month and she receives more than 250$ in food stamps)

My daughter and I receive less than 500$ in money and 150$ in food stamps. My rent is 507$ for a two bedroom, and I am stuck there because of a lease. But an inexpensive 1 bedroom doesn't get much lower than 400$. What I am getting at is that I am left with very little money to pay my bills and buy necessities like diapers, soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, etc. Yet I do , and I know that all this hardship will make me a better person and when I am done with my degree, (hopefully in teaching from CSUN) I will be a productive member of society, able to support my daughter and ensure that she is taken care of.

A minimum wage job, like Gain pushes, and the AFDC system, would not allow me to move beyond my hardship. And with a minimum wage job, when AFDC and Welfare reach their time limits, many families will fall lower into poverty. (T.K takes home more money with AFDC than a 40 hr. a week job making 6.00$ an hour, when you calculate in food stamps and take out taxes.) In the future, please try to relate things to this college and its students, it would be more interesting, relevant, and help others see that not everyone on AFDC/ Welfare fit the stereotypes. Some of us are intelligent, hardworking people who made some bad choices.

Thank you,
C. McGrata.

★

Dear Editor

What's in the future for Valley College students? Challenges! It's likely more challenges await college students than they can imagine. With global warming threatening to melt the polar ice caps, natural resources being depleted, and CFC's eroding the protective atmosphere, Valley College students must face the
environmental future as well as their own. Eventually they will leave school and enter the world of work. They will be confronted with a state and a nation with serious problems to resolve.

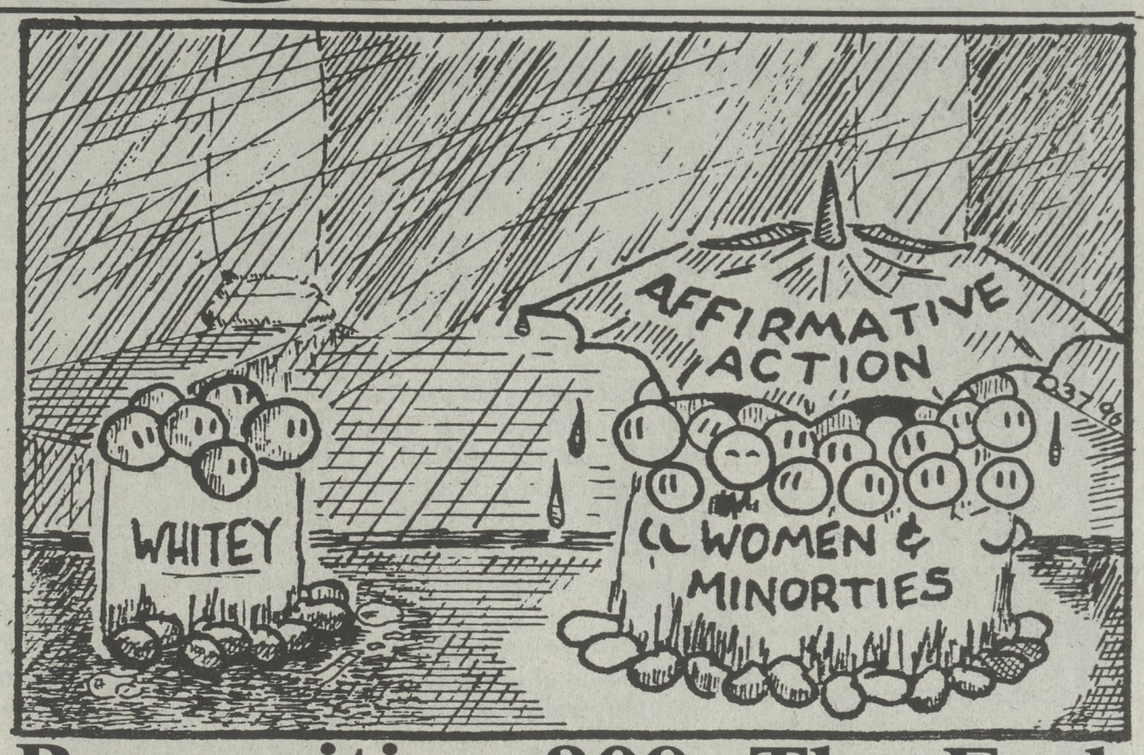
Energy resources are dwindling, and new renewable energy must be developed and utilized. Toxic waste are polluting the earth, the air and the sea. Trash is bulging in our land fills. Automobiles are crowding our highways. According to the California Energy Commission report "California uses more gasoline that every country in the world except the U.S. and the Soviet Union... California's continued over-dependence on oil remains the state's fundamental energy problem."

This should serve as a warning to college students as we look toward our future. Who will protect our environment? We cannot rely solely on legislators who are now in positions of responsibility. We must prepare for action and involvement now. We must learn about the problems and the potential solutions.

The use of solar power is one. Another is the use of electric vehicles, but at the moment these are expensive to produce and have limited range. But this is an issue that must be faced. The educated new generation must carry the challenge of state, national, and finally, world-wide environmental protection issues into the next century.

The quality of life will be determined by the availability of clean water, air and food. It's a future that demands personal involvement that includes, but goes beyond, recycling. It requires finding answers, enacting laws, encouraging conservation, and perhaps the most challenging of all, finding revenues to match the ideas. But I think we are up to it.

Paull.e Mat



Proposition 209: The End to an Unfair Edge

By LEO SMITH
STAF F WRITER

Not too long ago, there was a terrible need for affirmative action and its promise to end the rampant discrimination against minorities and women that existed in the public sector.

Since it's inception, affirmative action has allowed it's beneficiaries to educate themselves, receive job skills and hire into high paying jobs they may not have without it. Today however, women and minorities, as well as white males, are able to compete as equals for the same job, all thanks to affirmative action. Why then, is it still necessary to give some people an unfair edge over their equally qualified counterparts?

Prop. 209 will stop institutionalized discrimination.

When does the preferential treatment stop?

It won't. Not unless people understand that there will always be an argument for affirmative action's furthered existence, that being, bigotry and sexism are present in our society. What people have to realize is that it will never completely disappear. Nowhere in the world does there exist a society free of these loathsome traits, nor will a world of homo-sapiens exist without them.

That having been said, there is no better time than the present to stop institutionalized discrimination in favor of merit based acceptance policies. Discrimination based on a persons sex or skin color is reprehensible and should no longer be tolerated by our government.

Now, for those of you troglodytes out there who don't know what Proposition 209 is, pay close attention.

Proposition 209 will eliminate "discrimination or preferential treatment based on sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in public employment, education and contracting." Sounds pretty fair to me. So why is it that so many people are dead set against it? It's simple really, they hate discrimination and preferential treatment when it affects their ability to do something. However, if that same discrimination and preferential treatment gives them the edge over someone else, specifically white males, they'll sell their souls to support it. It makes me nauseous just thinking about those people.

The detractors of Prop. 209 fall into three distinct categories, the Ignorant, the Hypocritical and the Selfish.

The Selfish I can respect, for they are the silent majority who realize affirmative action is wrong, but oppose it for reasons of personal gain. Even though the Selfish know it is an unfair practice, they'll vote against 209, but not openly oppose it.

The Hypocritical are those that think the same way as the Selfish, but openly support affirmative action and condemn those that don't as racists, fascists, bigots, sexists, and any other -ists that come to there feeble minds. These are the charismatic, egotistical few who comprise the leadership of the Anti-209 group and are the most appalling of them all, for they are truly the bigots and sexists.

Finally there are the Ignorant, those that follow the Hypocritical without question. These people are being fed extremist propaganda by the Hypocrites, think Germany, circa the 1930s. They are the foot soldiers of the Anti 209 movement who have been fooled into believing that affirmative action is fair for everyone, and that no one loses. Once you believe that, you become nothing more than their pawn, simple and expendable.

So the choice is simple, you are either Right or oh so very Wrong. Proposition 209 will stop institutionalized discrimination, eliminate quotas and make it possible for all qualified people, regardless of race or sex, to compete as equals for jobs and an education.

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✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS

The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 250 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letters must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.

Valley Student Wins Palm Springs Writ

After years of working in the entertainment business, a broadcasting major returns to college to explore her real passion, writing.

By ELIZABETH RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Talk about over achievers. Jasmine Totschek, a student in Los Angeles Valley College has lived an, what one would call, accomplished life. Yet she feels she hasn't done enough.

Totschek returned to college after years of acting, modeling, dancing and working as a make-up artist. "I really want to do something with my life, using my mind and my creativity," says Totschek. So she returned to school to study her real calling in life, writing.

Totschek won the Palm Spring writers conference scholarship. The scholarship gave her the opportunity to attend a three day conference where she learned about finding her voice in fiction and other arts like how to sell a screenplay. She also received a chance to meet accomplished writers like Ray Bradbury. She was the only Los Angeles county recipient of the award. "I didn't win any money but what I got is to me priceless."

This is Totschek's third semester at Valley as a broadcasting major. She hopes to graduate this spring and then transfer to CSUN where she will join the radio television film program. Her major at CSUN will be Film. Her main goal is to write a screenplay but she wishes to have her own production company.

Besides wanting to be a writer, Totschek would like to prove that generation X'rs do appreciate art and literature. She's proud to represent her generation, she says, "Just because I like Smashing Pumpkins, it doesn't make me non- literary."

Totschek is a very positive person, her influences vary from Dylan Thomas to Robert Plant to her boyfriend, Dave. Everything influences her except for negative arts. "I don't want to contribute anymore to the negativity in the world."

Born and raised in LA, Totschek received most of her learning at home, she came from a very literary family. She hates the public school system, she felt as if she was being overlooked by her instructors. So she dropped out high school and went to college.

"I really want to do something with my life, using my mind and my creativity."

At the time she took dancing classes and became a professional dancer and worked with Grace Jones and Soul to Soul. After, she tried acting, she went to Tokyo and worked on a TV movie, she did not like acting she prefers to work behind the scenes.

Here at Valley, Totschek has quite a list of accomplishments. Besides winning the Writers Scholarship, she also has 15 units this semester and has managed to have a 4.0 GPA. She's also on the Dean's List and the Scholastic Honor Society. She feels that there should be more scholarships and support for young writers. She has also writen 500 poems.

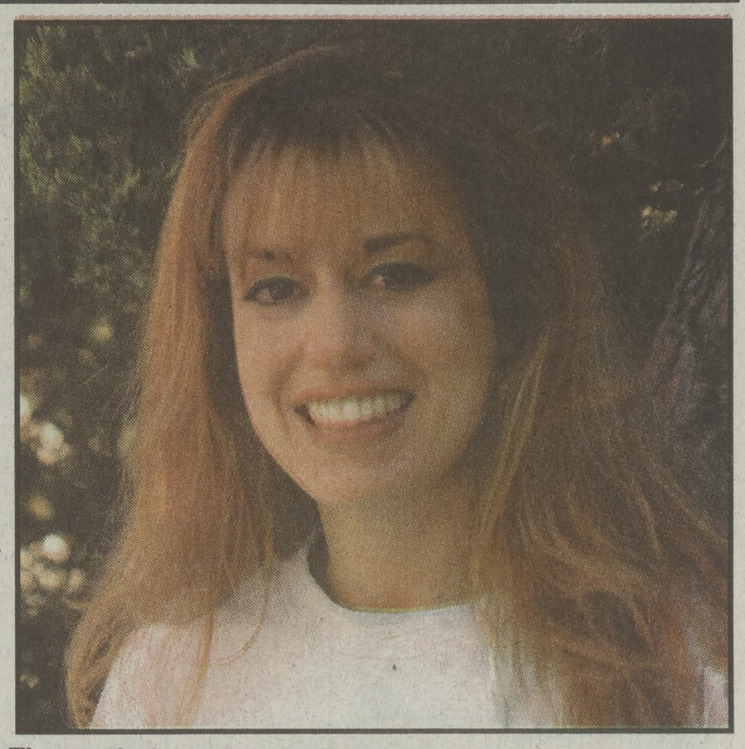
Her favorite writers are Lewis Carroll and Dorothy Parker. She likes strong women she believes people should be proud of what they are.

"Just because I like Smashing Pumpkins, it doesn't make me non-literary."

Totschek says she has an over-active imagination and has vivid dreams which give her story ideas. She imagines herself in scenarios and pictures what her character would do to escape from hot spots. Her genre is mystery.

Dave, Totschek's boyfriend also influenced her to go back to school after discovering that he had been in the 1988 Olympics cycling team she felt she hadn't done enough in her life. She wants her education to prove to herself that she did something worthwhile with her life. She also wishes to get her diploma for her dad who died last year.

Totschek is a great person all around, she's friendly, funny, smart and kind. When asked how she would like to be remembered, she said, "A person who tried to overcome the odds in their life and hopefully inspired other people." Then she adds, "I'd like to be able to leave the place better than I found it."



Carola Danielsson/Valley Star

The proud winner, Yasmine Totschek.

DUTCH, REED and KINGSLEY starring in "TECHNICALLY COLORED" by LEO SMITH

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WE MUST BE IN SOME PARALLEL UNIVERSE WHERE CARTOONISTS HAVE NO ORIGINAL IDEAS!
HOW'S THAT ANY DIFFERENT FROM OURS?
GOOD POINT. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
LOOK! THE GREAT PUMPKIN!!
WHERE?
OH NO! I MISSED HIM AGAIN! DAMN THOSE TWO DISTRACTIONS!!!
ZING
WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS THE "GREAT* TURKEY."
*ODDLY ENOUGH, THIS WAS THE ALTERNATE TITLE FOR THIS LAME CARTOON.

Day of the Dead

Late October and early November bring two of the eeriest holidays of the year: Halloween--or All Hallows Eve--and El Dia del Muertos--the day of the dead.

Originally a pagan holiday, Halloween was a night of witch craft and human sacrifice in the early days of civilization.

Christianity, in an attempt to discourage the "old ways" of the still superstitious people, made All Hallows Day into All Saints Day. The next day became All Souls Day.

In the Hispanic tradition, All Souls Day has become El Dia de los Muertos, a day to celebrate and remember the lives of those who have died.

Children buy skulls made of sugar, play with skeletons and small encoffined figures and join the adults for picnics and festivities, all which honor the deceased.

Photos special to the Valley Star

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From Ugly *to Lovely*

By ROBERT PATTERSON
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The last show of the short run of the classic tale "The Ugly Duckling" as interpreted by the Valley College theater arts program was Oct. 18. They took a comedic approach while delivering this famous tale, and boy did they deliver.

Zeus Avalos' and Richard Randa's portrayal of Prince Simon and his aide Carlo, were astounding to say the least. Laughter echoed throughout the theater as the food, from the fruit plate which Carlo was attacking with reckless abandon, fell from his jowls with such grace, finesse and raw comedic value. Prince Simon was shrouded with such an air of innocence and newness to his environment as to smack of the town fool on yet another pointless folly which will only drop him back 10 feet from where he started off at in the first place. If they ever tell you that slapstick is dead tell them they are, dead wrong that is. Exercised with moderation and an articulate sense of timing, slapstick humor is still very much alive, and how they proved it in this production.

As the inhabitants of the castle, Marcus Ramos and Alice Garabedian's performance as the whimsical king and the controlling queen was superb. But Shannon Riley's presentation of Dulcibella, the simple, naive handmaid to Princess Camilla stole the show from the rest of the royal entourage. Her part was performed with such a degree of convection one has to ask "Is she really just acting?" Her giggling was the siren sound that called forth the laughter that lay tucked deep away in the souls of all those who had gathered together to observe this spectacle of silliness. If there was ever a part made for the actor portraying a character, then this was it, this girl was a natural. Her sense of timing and method of delivery seemed to be a sense that must come inbreed to those lucky few who can lift us up from our depths of worries to over the highest mountain peaks riding upon the winds of laughter.

There were, of course, the normal college theater slip-ups one must come to expect when observing a group of people learning to do something, anything. The recoveries from these words that fell from tripped lips were not what one might call seamless, but they were not show shattering snags either. This troupe, and each one of them putting so much in, accomplished their mission with a high degree of success in their attempt to cause a few sides to ache from laughing.

Courtesy of the Theater Arts Department

Cast members of "The Ugly Duckling" pose after successful performances which ran through Oct. 18. The play offered a unique interpretation, rife with comedy and snappy comebacks.

Behind the Scenes

By BEN ALTER
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Haunted houses, why are they so appealing?

Every October they appear and we have the urge to visit, explore, be frightened.

What is it that makes us go? What is it that keeps us coming back? Is it the spirit of Halloween or the thrill of getting scared? The answer differs with the individual, but we all enjoy a good show.

When an organization designs and sets up a haunted house, they have one thing in mind: to make this house the scariest. There are several ways of going about this.

The first is the traditional way, scaring us with hissing vampires, monsters jumping out at us, and so on.

The second way is a little more theatrical. They use things like seances with noises, mirrors, little gadgets and other such special effects.

The third way uses a combination of both styles. This is usually done with a traditional house followed by the theatrical performances.

By far the most popular of these styles is the traditional haunted house. So many things can be done to scare us. Picture it, we step into a long, dark hallway, the sound wind slamming against the building, and a woman lets out a high-pitched shriek.

We walk a little further and the Grim Reaper appears. "Let me show you the way to your demise," he hisses. As he leads us down this dark hallway, a wolf man jumps out, stopped only by a cage that we hadn't noticed..

Again we move on, and see a light coming through a door up ahead. A woman screams. As we pass through the door we are greeted by a maniac with an ax. As suddenly as he appeared, he disappears.

The tour continues, and we keep walking down this long, dark, curving hallway. Isthis real, or is it one of those nightmares that seem so real at the time? We finally think we're safe only to have the headlights of a car come racing at us, horn blaring It just barely misses. These are a few of the things used to scare people at the haunted house that I worked.

One night while I was working in a part of the house that was set up to look like the laboratory of a mad scientist, I was lying on a table that was able to move me into a standing position. I was dressed in an over-sized hospital gown that covered most of my body and a fake pair of shoulders that sat on my head.

There was also a fake head made to look like my own, that was balanced to fall on the floor when the scientist stood me up. The next group was coming and everyone got into position. What we didn't know was that there was a joker in this group.

As they came near this guy grabbed my shoe and started making jokes about monsters wearing Nike hightops. When the scientist flipped up the table and the head fell to the ground, the joker started saying that it wasn't scary.

Through a set of holes cut in the shoulders, I saw this fun-lover

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Fear Lives to Die on Halloween Night

By TANYA GALLARDO
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Blood, murder and the most obscene mystery has captured the psyche of millions. What makes people go to the box office and return to those horror classics which almost everyone already knows the plot?

Classic movies such as Halloween, Nightmare on Elm Street, Friday the 13th, Hellraiser, Dracula and Amityville Horror made Michael Myers, Freddy Kreuger and Jason Voorhees into household names synonymous with terror.

Why do people thrive on the fright these movies create? Is it the heart racing climax that sends people away in fear? Or is it the hypnotizing special effects and outrageous story lines that cause people to stare at the silver screen, mesmerized with fear?

Audiences are awestruck by the terror which makes their blood run cold and what better time of year to enjoy the timeless horror of classic movies than All Hallows Eve. Halloween is the special time of year when ghouls and goblins, witches and ghosts and vampires and werewolves come out of the night to prey on the minds and souls of innocent victims. When madness and horror are in the air the cold mysterious winds begin to create a haunting feeling of fear pounding with the rhythm of heartbeats.

The adrenaline which fear causes leaves people with such a rush, adding to it the eeriness of Halloween's mystery and spookiness, that people must have their Halloween scare. This is the one time of year that even the skeptics will question the existence and realism of the nether world and ethereal visitors. It sucks down to the bottom of souls, and to the part of the mind that has not been reached since childhood.

Halloween is the best time to be a horror junkie, when all the creatures of the night appear, begging for attention and dying to scare.

Carola Danielsson/Valley Star

Ghastly scenes attract viewers who flock to horror movies.

VALLEY COLLEGE'S PUMPKINFEST featured face-painting, a small pumpkin patch, a petting zoo and a Haunted House. The Pumpkinfest ran all weekend, entertaining a multitude of children and their families.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Theater Arts Department invites everyone to **Bye Bye Birdie Musical Comedy** tonight, Friday and Saturday at Valley College Little Theatre. Admission : $9, students $5. Call (818)778-0353 for reservations. Musical begins at 8 p.m.

The Music Department's **Campus Concert Series** is scheduled for tonight at the Music Recital Hall @ 11 a.m. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

The next **Monarch's Football Game,** Valley College vs. Los Angeles Southwest, at Valley College, is scheduled for this Saturday @ 7 p.m.

The next **Water Polo** event is the Western Conference Tourney, scheduled for this Friday and Saturday at Ventura, all day.

"Financial Aid" is the next **Lunch Time Workshop** open to all students. Grace Rabideau and David Ritterband will offer the workshop Thursday, Nov. 5 from noon to 1 p.m. @ FL 102.

The Writing Center invites students to attend **Free Writing Workshops.** Workshops include: Punctuation & Sentence Fragments; Eng. 28 Essay Test Prep; Subject Verb Agreement; and Developing Paragraphs & Comma Splice. Workshops and information in Humanities 100.

Grace on Campus **(Bible Study Club)** is now meeting every Monday @ 1 p.m. in CC200. All welcomed.

The **Bible Answer Booth** is available to answer Bible questions every Monday, outside the Bookstore from 9:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Student volunteers needed to serve as **Big Brothers** to at-risk children by incorporating a child into their existing schedules. For more info call (800) 463-4066.

Statewide search for **Miss California Teen** All American **Contest.** Pageant to be staged January 11th & 12th. For more info, call (304) 242-4900.

Valley College groups & organizations may submit flyers and other information to be printed in HIGHLIGHTS. Submit info. to B25 by noon on the Monday of the week of publication.

Behind the Scenes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

turn around and face his friends. I reached out toward him. When he turned around and saw me he got so scared he wet his pants.

I also recall a situation that wasn't quite so funny. I was working in a part of the house that had me pushing a cart, rigged with two headlights and a horn, at people. Right before this one particular group got to me, they were greeted by a maniac with a chainsaw connected to a strobe light.

This totally freaked out a little girl and made her cry. They were coming closer to me and I didn't want to scare the poor little thing any more than she already was, but I had to. The little girl started screaming even louder, and I felt badly the rest of the night.

So haunted house-goers should remember two things. If you're going to take small children, be prepared to be up all night and don't mess with the monsters, they might come back.

Strange and Unexplained

By CARMEN PINTO
STAFF WRITER

Fleeting images, noises and cold waves are often associated with the unexplained. But whether or not you believe in ghosts or spirits, several houses and bed & breakfast inns affirm their place is "where something strange and unexplained is happening," according to an October 1994 Harper's Magazine issue.

Many people, especially during the Halloween season, seek out haunted places for pleasure and curiosity.

Southern California has its share of "documented" haunted houses and b&b inns.

The Kellner House in San Diego or the J.S. Cain House-State Historic Park in Bodie are two examples.

Kellner House is said to be occupied by the spirit of a former owner, Victoria Magee. The ghost reportedly communicates her decorating tastes by breaking statutes and turning pictures upside down.

Bodie State Historic Park is said to be spooked by a former maid. The heavyset Asian woman allegedly haunts the J.S. Cain House by sitting on the legs of the sleeping people.

B&b inns have also been known for being haunted yearround. According to a Forbes Magazine article, many b&b are relics from the colonial or victorian eras, and plenty of living and dying (some grotesque) has gone on inside those walls.

Other haunted sites include the Rose Victorian Inn in Arroyo Grande where it is said that a young girl by the name of Alice waits in a tower room for her mother to return.

The Mansion in San Francisco, also known as the spookhouse to the stars, is said to sometimes spot an ethereal woman on the third floor.

More well-known haunted sites include Stoner House in Dark Harbor, Maine. It is said that no matter how many times the carpet is placed on the parlor of the wood-frame house, it lumps up in the center of the room with blood stains on the surface.

During the 1900s, when Salathiel Stoner owned the house, he brought his wife Amanda a carpet. As he laid it on the parlor to nail it down, his wife told him she hated the carpet and him. In a rage, Stoner raised his hammer and beat Amanda. He proceeded to nail down the carpet over her body. Stoner ignored the hump on the parlor, even when visitors arrived. He was committed to an insane asylum in Portland shortly after but the house hasn't forgotten the incident.

Celtic Arts Revel in NoHo

By L.E. THOMAS
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Visitors enter the humble doorway of the Raven Playhouse on Lankershim Boulevard to leave one world and enter another.

At first glance, the black room appears a tiny theater of 40-odd red velvet seats, but, on Monday nights, it transforms to another place, another age, of song, dance and Irish brogue.

The Celtic Arts Center is a nonprofit organization completing its fledgling year in its new home at the Raven Playhouse in the NoHo Arts District.

The 8-year-old organization teaches traditional Celtic dance and language, offers Celtic music jam sessions and produces concert performances, critically acclaimed plays and special holiday festivals.

The gifted group recently participated in the Los Angeles County Open Arts festival with one of its occasional formal performances.

The performance presented traditional live band music and song from sprightly Irish jigs and reels to haunting ancient ballad tunes.

The performance included story telling by the seasoned and captivating Clark Branson. The wonderfully-weathered Branson spun one bawdy tale of a Spanish lady. "I'll tie your garter above your knee, and farther if you want," he sang in character.

A soul-stirring performance was given by guitarist-singer, Peter McGowen, in his authentic brogue. Haunting melodies of forests, sons, fathers and war will reach into any soul, Celtic or not.

Dancers exhibited "Ceili" (KAY-lee), traditional Irish folk dances, with open participation from fun loving audience members. Mesmerized children and wide-grinned adults clapped to the spirited beat.

The Celtic Arts Center plays host to a social gathering or "Seisun" (say-SHOON) every Monday night. The Center provides Gaelic language lessons at 7 p.m. and dance instruction at 8 p.m., all levels.

Dancing begins at 8:30 p.m. and a musical jam session begins at 9:30 p.m. The Monday night Seisuns, including classes, are all entirely free and open to the public.

"Our philosophy is that people should not have to pay to learn about their culture," Marta Collier, an officer of the organization, explained.

Center director Sean Walsh shares an Irish heritage with roughly 2 million Southern Californians. Many from Irish, Welsh and Scottish backgrounds or ancestry enjoy the Center. However, it is open to anyone interested in the Gaelic culture. "We have all kinds of people who come here, all ages and from all walks of life. Anyone who appreciates Celtic arts is welcome to come to enjoy and participate," a rare opportunity for culture and music lovers.

"It's like a party every Monday night," Collier said. It's an informal party: no costumes, no fuss, just a comfortable, casual, congenial environment inviting friendship and good conversation. The Irish, after all, claim they are the "ultimate conversationalists."

According to Walsh, Monday night participation is growing, especially the language and dance classes. The jam sessions offer a relaxed gathering place for seasoned musicians and novices alike.

The Eagles Coffee Pub next door has a wide array of coffees and cappuccinos for sale, which guests freely bring into the theater.

Coming up in just a very few days is one of the Center's special holiday events, the Celtic New year. The festivities will be held this Sunday from 4 to 11 p.m. and will feature music, dance and traditional food, such as scones, Welsh rarebit, Irish stew and "bangers," a traditional Irish sausage with mustard and grilled onions.

The special festival was held last year to considerable success and great fun according to its participants. There is a $10 donation for adults and $5 donation for students, seniors, and children to attend this special event.

Even if one's last name is not "Mahoney," one will no doubt be caught up in the Center's family of friends and Irish reverie. Their slogan invites, "Come join us in our revels!" For more information, call (213) 462-6844.

Free Health Services and Seminars Offered

By SIGIFREDO MEDINA JR.
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Free health screenings, non-prescription drugs and lab testing are all available at the student Health Services Center at Valley College. The center is located in the Women's Gym.

"Since 1993 they have helped students of all ages achieve wellness through medical treatment and education," said Jeanie Duran, Student Health Center coordinator.

The health center has low-cost programs for all students and also offers free over-the-counter medicines and labs. These include free cholesterol screening, prescription medicine at the student health clinic. All of these services are included in the student health fees which are paid at the beginning of each semester.

So far, the experiences individuals have gone through have been very positive.

"I was so nervous when I found out I was pregnant. I didn't know what to do. I keep coming to the health center for check-ups as well as others here at Valley College," according to a former Valley College student.

The center offers a wide array of preventive and diagnostic services including family planning, physical assessments and blood pressure screening. They recommend taking advantage of the services by bringing a valid student ID card or registration receipt. The health center can verify eligibility to receive services.

Valley College also offers seminars free to students on topics important to college students such as "living with AIDS and being alive" which will be offered Nov. 13 from 1-2 p.m. and from 6-7 p.m. in CC207. The last seminar offered by the health center featured an HIV positive heterosexual telling the story of his battle with AIDS.

To make an appointment or for more information students may call the Student Health Clinic at (818) 780-0652 or visit the clinic located in the Women's Gym.

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LAVC Honor Students Attend Perot Dinner

By REBECCA FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

Four Valley College honor students from the Transfer Alliance Program, Brian Hill, Phillip Gottstein, Ephraim Morris and Alon Shmilovich, along with their professor, Dr. Alfred Zucker, attended a World Affairs Council Dinner Oct. 22 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel where they heard presidential aspirant H. Ross Perot speak about contemporary American politics.

Perot presented a carefully researched scholarly argument to show the business-as-usual approach on the part of both major political parties would soon lead to economic and social problems that would be very difficult if not impossible to resolve.

All of the students who attended the dinner were impressed with his academic approach to the issues. Perot did not criticize other people but stuck strictly to the issues and defended his position with documentation form highly respected political and historical sources.

Each month Zucker takes a group of students to hear presentations form political, business and university speakers. In the past, students have attended meetings with Henry Kissinger, Walter Mondale, and the President of Ireland.

These presentations are not only very informative but also provide an opportunity to meet the leaders of many nations and corporations. After the formal presentation, the students often have a short, small, group meeting with the speakers where they can talk with him, ask questions, shake hands and take pictures.

Halloween Haunt at Knott's Scary Farm

By REBECCA FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

Knott's Scary Farm is celebrating 24 years of fiendish fun and ghoulish thrills this Halloween.

The haunt is the world's largest annual Halloween party (according to attendance). Originally it was a one day event with a decorated Ghost Town and several dozen live monsters lurking in the fog. Currently the theme park opens two weeks before Halloween, and the estimated attendance is over 5,000 visitors nightly.

The elaborate, multi-night party is celebrated with new mazes, shows and performers added every year. The annual ghost hosts have included Wolfman Jack, Elvira-Mistress of the Dark, and the Crypt Keeper.

Knott's biggest draw is the walk-through and ride-through mazes. Each maze features a different theme, live monsters and special interactive effects. Some of the most popular mazes are: The Body, Mother Noose's Scary Tales, Baits Motel, Uncle Ernie's Madhouse, Lair of the Vampyre and Temple of Sacrifice. Every year they add new mazes, and change themes to keep the audiences entertained.

This year the new mazes include Toon Terrortory, Camp GonnaGetcha, The Underground and Kingdom of the Lounge Lizards.

Toon Terrortory features deranged toons escaped from animation studios in Burbank. The shockingly scary sketches may look harmless but they try every gag in the book to detain you and prolong your adventure in animation agony.

Forget the late night ghost stories, Camp GonnaGetcha (Timber Mountain Log Ride) is the real thing. Krazed kampfire kids mercilessly tied up their counselors and turned the friendly forest into an inescapable inferno of angry attack animals and arsonists. As the blazes surround you, your only escape is a treacherous log ride.

If you have ever wished for a bride or the perfect mate, try your luck on Knott's Scary Date, the all new Knott's Scary Farm dating game.

CAROLA DANIELSSON / VALLEY STAR

In an underground maze, a nuclear holocaust nightmare comes true. The Earth has been destroyed and all that's left is an apocalyptic world ravaged by earthquakes, fires and other natural disasters. An underground society of live mutants, zombies and evil warlords waiting to destroy anyone that dare crosses their path.

In addition to the haunted rides and walk-through attractions, Knott's Halloween Haunt offers live performances.

The Hanging is considered Knott's most popular and bizarre live show. It is a big-stage satirical show featuring special effects, pyrotechnics and high-flying stunts. The villain's fate rests in the hands of the audience. Do you hang him or spare his life?

A new audience participation event is the Deadly Dating Game. Unsuspecting guests are plucked from the audience to participate in Wheel of Misfortune, Obstacle Course, and Let's Break a Deal. In these competitions searching for true love and winning could mean losing.

The live performances of Dead Monsters of Rock—Live is also a new show for 1996. A graveyard rock 'n' roll revue combines monster legends of the 60s, 70s and 80s with living icons. The show features special effects, scary monsters and great dancers.

Ghost Town, and The Gauntlet: Festival of Freaks are two frighteningly themed scare zones. The fog is so thick you can not see two feet in front of you. From every nook and cranny comes the most horrifying sights and sounds ever imagined. Hundreds of monsters, ghosts and goblins search for unsuspecting prey. The Texas chainsaw massacre pales in comparison to the hideous acts of terror carried out by the Knott's chainsaw psycho. Do you dare to be scared.

Millennium: Fox TV Premieres Latest Flop

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

The wait is finally over, but was it really worth it? Millennium, the new show by X-Files creator Chris Carter, made it's premiere last Friday. It was quite a disappointment, Carter attempted to match the phenomenal success of the X-Files, but failed miserably.

From the advertisements one expected the show to be frightening and suspenseful instead it was boring and confusing. The show opens up at strip joint. The psycho is there and he's watching one specific stripper then as she's dancing blood pours down from the walls and then she's surrounded in flames. All the while the psycho is muttering something to himself. My first thought was "Huh?"

Then enters Frank Black (Lance Henriksen), he is an ex FBI agent who has the ability to see what the criminal is doing. He is a member of the Millennium group, and I have no idea what they do. Black seems to find the clues quite easily and accurately with his empathic ability. Why nobody suspects him of being the killer is a mystery to me.

From my understanding, the psycho is trying to make sure biblical prophesies come true. He goes in search of people he sees as sinners, sews their eyelids and lips together and buries them alive. Besides all the gore the show contains nothing but confusing dialogue.

Sure the strippers will certainly grab the attention of the male audience, unfortunately, the rest of us are stuck with decapitated heads and one almost believable chase sequence in the middle of a crowded road.

The show is very dark and disturbing. The X-Files is also moody, but at least the characters have an sense of humor. The only lively scene in Millennium is when Black brings a puppy home.

Though majority of the show is deranged, the acting by Mike Puttonen, who plays the psychopath, is excellent. He is the only interesting aspect of the show too bad his character died.

For those who want to start the weekend feeling disturbed, then Millennium is the show to watch. For those who don't, go see a Disney film.

Down To Earth...

Though scoffed and laughed at, SUPERSTITIONS are still around, ready to prey on the non-believers.

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
STAFF WRITER

Beware! There are many demons lurking around waiting for a chance to give misfortune to the living. Be careful of shadows, which may foretell of death.

Watch for your shadow at night. If it happens to be missing a head, then you will die before the next Christmas evening.

To prevent the devil from entering the body and possessing it, people cover their mouths when yawning. Nowadays, people cover their mouths to prevent the spread of germs.

Close all windows at night, or else floating spirits will enter, prey upon your soul and make you one of them.

The number 13 has long been thought of as unlucky. Many centuries ago a king executed prisoners on the thirteenth of every month. The stigma behing the number 13 has crept along the centuries turning it into one of the more well-known superstitions. Even architects are superstitious. Next time you use the elevator in a building, check to see if it has a thirteenth floor. If your home address has the number 13, then you may suffer an ill fate, if you believe.

What about black cats, ladders and mirrors? If you know of any more superstitions or cultural beliefs of this nature, write them down and drop them off in bungalow 25 or address them to Valley Star, Down to Earth, Attn.: Liz Rodriguez and drop them in the mail room in the Administration Building.

Just in case you do happen to see your shadow without a head, give a small bag of salt to a friend and good luck will come your way.

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Monarchs Score First Shutout on Seahawks 45-0

By JENNIFER CORTESE
STAFF WRITER

The Monarchs continued to roll through the Western State Conference Southern Division in their final road game of the season, with their first total shutout against the Seahawks 45-0.

Quarterback Dave Lins started the game, completing 10 of 14 passes for 123 yards and two touchdowns before giving to Bryan Paul (1 of 3, 11 yards) and Tom Racius (3 of 8, 82 yards)

Both of Racius' touchdown passes went to Kenyatta Burris, who finished with two receptions for 65 yards.

Marcus Harvey was the leading ground gainer, picking up 136 yards on 11 carries and two touchdowns. Harvey, setting up his last touchdown, a one yard dive into the end zone, with a 25 yard reception on a shovel pass from Lins. He also had a 20 yard punt return that set up another touchdown for the Monarchs.

Harvey was followed by Antwane Smith, who carried 7 times for 65 yards. Rosheed Coleman and Lavell Thompson logged the interceptions while Edgar Nava stopped a field goal. Ron Allen, Bryan Henderson, and Karalus Doyle each recovered fumbles, with Doyle and Henderson also forcing a fumble.

Monarch linebacker Damion Thompson was noted with honors Saturday, for having two unassisted tackles, three assists, two hurries, one tackle for a loss, and one interception against the Harbor Seahawks.

This Saturday, the Monarchs will return home to Monarch Stadium, to battle the L.A. Southwest Cougars standing on a 1-5 record. Kick-off time will be 7 p.m.

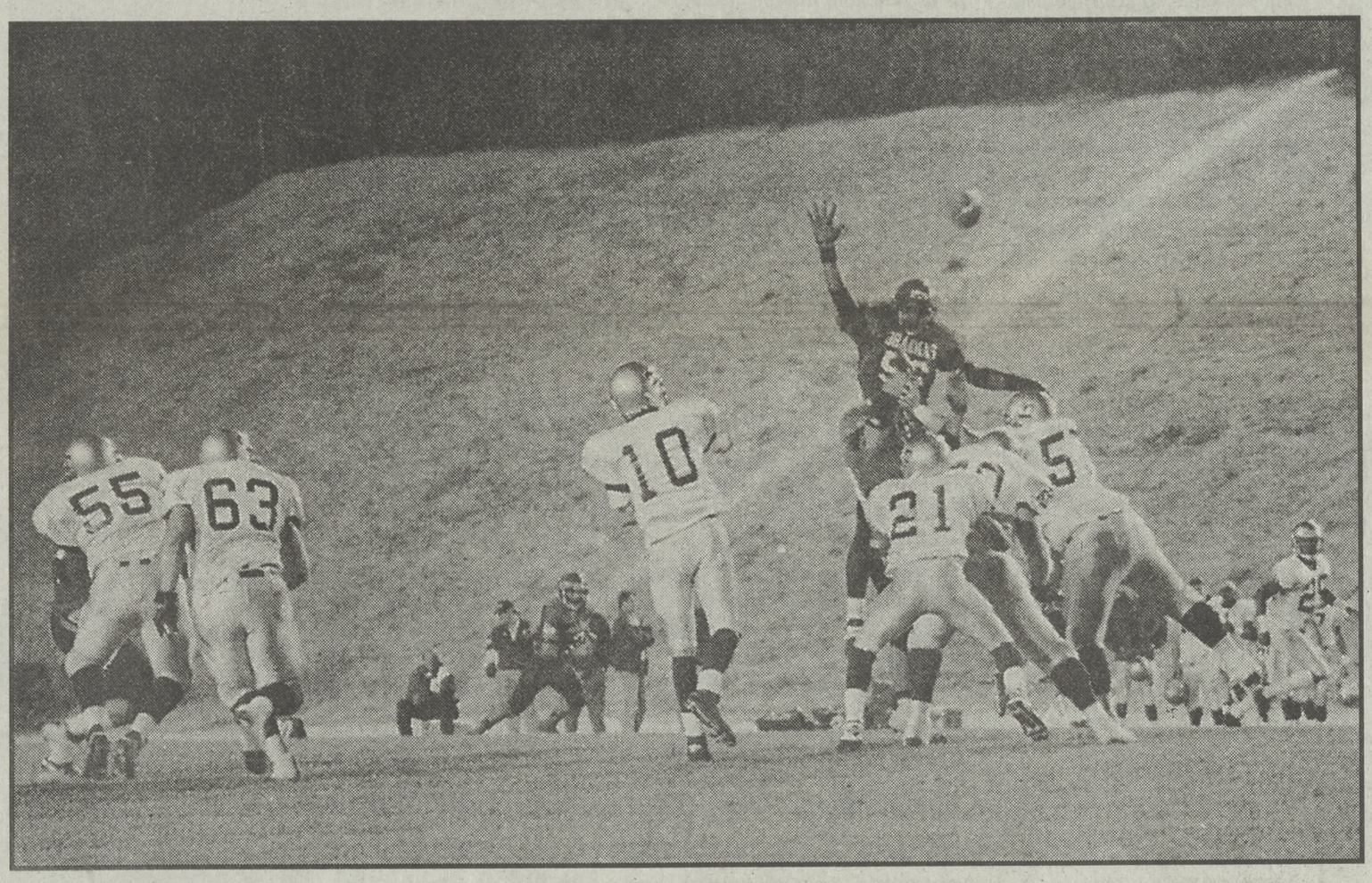
Tailgater Alert

Tailgaters, be reminded that the dining begins shortly after 5 p.m. The celebrants have been branded "friendly" and agree that the pregame barbecue offers a golden opportunity to make new friends while enjoying a hearty meal before the game against the Cougars. Acting tailgate commissioner Lynne Lins welcomes all participants and is available to respond to any and all questions. Ms. Lins can be contacted at 818-996-5217.

Maria Ivey/Valley Star

Seahawks fell to an overwhelming Monarch offense. The Harbor team failed to score decimated by the 45 - 0 shutout.

Biggest blowout in Monarch history, vs. Pierce 80-20



Carola Danielsson/Valley Star

Monarchs prevent an interception as the Pierce Brahmas leap for the ball. Monarchs dominated throughout the game.

By JENNIFER CORTESE
STAFF WRITER

The Monarchs continued their away game victory streak Oct. 19 by demolishing the Pierce Brahmas in a homecoming blowout 80-20. Yes, this is football.

The Monarchs scored before their offense even touched the ball. Ranking number nine in the state, the Monarchs dominated the game scoring 11 touchdowns, throwing over 300 yards and rushed for more than 200 yards.

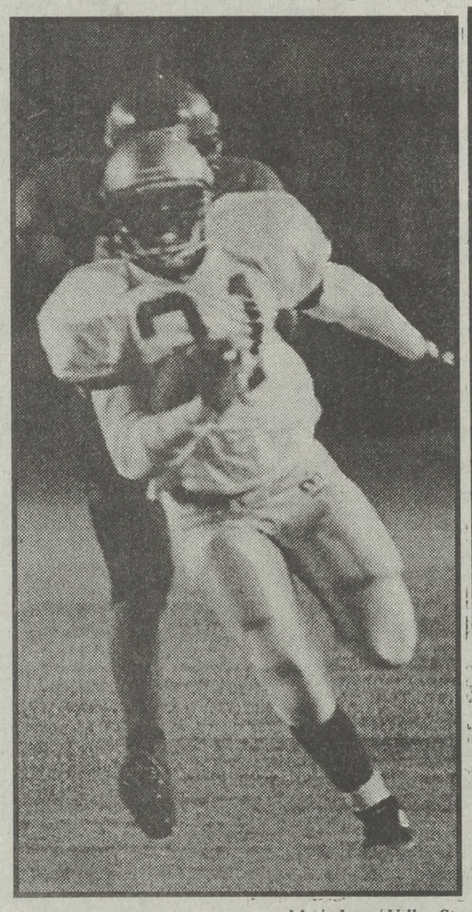
Forcing Pierce to punt on the opening drive, Monarch linebacker Jaques Desir blocked Jacob Guy's kick which Simisi Umfuke recovered in the end-zone for a 7-0 lead.

Two Monarchs reached team and national milestones. Sophomore running back Marcus Harvey from Detroit, in 14 carries rushed 95 yards and 3 touchdowns, with a 59 yard scoring punt return. Harvey moved into second place on Valley's all-time rushing list with 162 points, putting a gloom over the Brahmas' heads. Sophomore kicker Matt Kohl, set a new national junior college record, scoring 11 successful point after attempts in a single game.

Monarchs reserve running back Adrian Peters added 76 yards and a touchdown on six carries and Kenny Nelson scored on runs of one and 18 yards. Monarch quarterback Dave Lins completed 17 of 26 passes for 264 yards and three touchdowns but was intercepted for the first time in 163 attempts.

Joey Orlando then took the lead bringing in four receptions for 66 yards and one touchdown. Things continued to get worse for the Brahmas, trailing 38-7 at the half, and scoring only one touchdown until the end. Monarchs Defense proved to be a huge problem for the Brahmas, by intercepting two passes, one by Carthron and the other by Blunt.

The Monarchs have defeated the Brahmas for six consecutive years and are keeping the Victory Bell for another year after handing the Brahmas loss number 13.



Maria Ivey / Valley Star

Marcus Harvey runs the ball home.,

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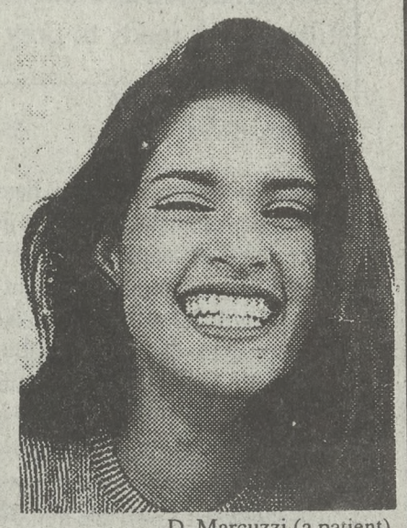

D. Marcuzzi (a patient)

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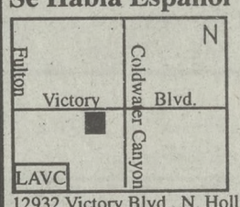

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